

FRELIGH (M.)

A BRIEF TREATISE

ON

THE PATHOLOGY AND CURE

OF

CONSUMPTION,

BY

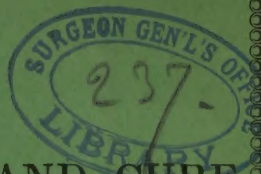
DR. M. FRELIGH.

*88 Prince St
3^d door from Broadway*

NEW YORK:

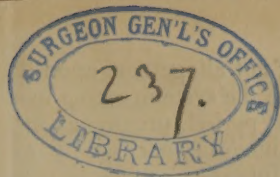
WM. L. S. HARRISON, PRINTER, 2 ANN STREET.

1851.



WERE I in the habit of troubling the reading part of community with essays, then it might be necessary to offer an apology for again obtruding myself upon their indulgence. But this being the first, I have only to say that it is a mere introduction to an edition upon diseases of the chest; the result of scientific research, bestowed for years upon a subject of vital importance, to this and every community. A matter of science should always be a welcome guest, and if it carries out the object for which it is intended, viz: to guard those most interested, (the invalid,) against the delusion of empirical remedies, then I receive a full compensation for my labor.

THE AUTHOR.



THE PATHOLOGY OF CONSUMPTION, AND ITS CURE.

What mind can view and contemplate the beauties of creation, and trace from the most simple elementary substance in nature, through the various grades of combination to the beginning of organic life, and from thence to the higher scale of organization and its attributes, that is not lead to exclaim in the language of the poet, "The proper study of mankind is man," and also have enforced upon the mind the wisdom of that divine injunction, "know thyself."

How interesting the study of the human structure, composed of such delicate and minute parts; a combination of atoms, governed by an inherent principle, a specific law physically tending to a right. That man is governed by a specific law, holding in abeyance the chemical and physiological relation of the constituents of his organization, can admit of no doubt, for all material substances in the animate and inanimate world—the vegetable and mineral kingdoms, in crystallization—each individual substance assumes a peculiar form or arrangement according to its properties. Everything in nature, even the lowest and comparatively insignificant, is governed by a law peculiar to itself. And would it not be chimerical to suppose that man, occupying as he does the most prominent position, the highest in the scale of creation, the noblest work of God, destitute of a law peculiar to himself?

And when this preserving power—this conservative principle or presiding regulator over the recuperative power and waste of the system—the "*vis medicatrix naturæ*" (name it what you please, as it does not destroy or change its agency,) holds absolute control over the organism, we have that harmonious whole, that normal standard, denominated health. And as the constituents of man's organism are numerous, reasoning "*a priori*" would lead us at least to infer, that causes bearing an equal ratio in numbers must necessarily exist, to which we are almost constantly exposed, capable of infringing upon this specific law. The effect of these causes depend to a great

extent, (if not altogether) upon their character and the predisposition existing in the system, acting upon the susceptibility with an indefinite latent period, producing that abnormal condition denominated disease, numerous necessarily as they must be, and varying in their grade of intensity and danger, according to the importance of the part or viscous most prominently disturbed, and from totality of symptom showing the greater physical derangement.

The province of the physician is then plainly indicated, viz., to kindly assist the efforts of nature, that benignant law, in restoring an equilibrium in the system, abridge disease, and thereby ameliorate the suffering condition of his fellow man. What an important position he occupies—confided to his care the greatest temporal blessing, the one most cherished on earth, health; without which, the association of friends, the highest post of honor, and the most enviable pecuniary position, dwindles into comparative insignificance.

The gaiety of society, commingled with all the other pleasures of the world, finds no reciprocal response in the valetudinarian; his earnest search is after health, for which he parts with the friends of youth, and bids adieu to his native land, cherishing the hope that some distant clime may prove more congenial to him, and conduce to his restoration.

What a wide field is presented in searching the records of disease, and how fearful the fatality! The plague of London—the fever that prevailed at Gibraltar, and the gradual spread of the cholera from Asia to the western borders of our continent, in their missions of destruction brought thousands of victims to the grave; but they were epidemics peculiar to the season, and differing materially from that assemblage of morbid phenomena, known to the profession of medicine as “Phthisis pulmonalis,” “Tubercular phthisis,” and to others by the more common term, Consumption, which has prevailed from the period of which we have any correct data in the history of medicine up to the present time; and according to Dr. Young’s *Bibliographia Phthisica*, years ago fifty thousand persons died of consumption in Europe yearly; in Great Britain, one in every four; in Paris, one in five, and one in six at Vienna. The number in the United States is known to be great, without referring to the most startling statistics. Then it behooves us, as in every department of science, to direct our inquiries to the solution of the most important subjects, thereby conferring the greater blessing on our race.

The means in our power for the examination of disease are greatly in favor of success, and must enable us to present to the world unvarnished facts. But a consummation thus desirable cannot be attained without diligent research, and the surmounting of many obstacles. It has justly been said, “The difficulty of acquiring accurate

knowledge, is an admonition of nature which reminds man of his weakness, and the caution he ought to observe."

The importance of a correct knowledge of the character of the disease, its prevention and cure, that I propose to briefly notice, must be very evident to the most limited understanding, and I must confess the magnitude of the subject too great for the space allotted to this brief treatise, to notice in detail the many phathological changes, as evinced by physical signs and their mutations, in the different stages of the disease from its incipency to its final termination. Neither can I notice the many symptoms and physical signs, developed by that interesting and accurate mode of exploration, viz., percussion and auscultation, which more definitely define these changes, particularly as regards the lungs, and the adjacent tissue; but must be content by simply referring to the more familiar symptoms and changes of a disease, that has proven more destructive of human life, than either in the catalogue to which frail humanity is heir to. There is no disease that has been more neglected, from the prevailing idea of its inevitable fatal tendency; none more insidious from its incipency to a fatal termination; none that has proven more sure of its victim; and none that has been more tampered with by wicked speculation, and its victims lulled into a fatal seeming security, by delusive empiricism. Its fatal ravages can be traced in every rank and condition of society, from the hovels of the poor and unfortunate, to the most magnificent and stately mansion; the uneducated and literati; from the mind approaching hebitude, to the most gifted intellectual endowments; from infancy to blooming youth, like the rose nip'd in the bud by the chilly frost, subject to premature death and decay; in fine, from the cradle to advanced age, all are equally subject to its blighting and withering influence.

How insidious its approach, by a slight pain in the region of the clavicle (or collar bone,) a pain amounting to but little more than an uneasiness beneath the scapulæ, (or shoulder blade,) pain in the right or left side of the chest, a dry hacking cough, scarcely sufficient to attract attention, or morning cough with moderate expectoration, mild catarrhal symptoms, slight stricture of the chest with oppressed breathing, moderately hurried respiration, some difficulty experienced upon lying upon either side, a degree of uneasiness and apparent shortness of breath, while in the recumbent posture, hoarseness with some soreness of the throat, and slight difficulty in swallowing.

How mild the appearance of these symptoms, and how generally they are neglected. They are, however, notwithstanding their seeming mildness and innocency, a sure and positive index, if unarrested, to irritation of mucous and serous surfaces, circumscribed or local inflammation, adhesions, indurations of the membranes, and of the

sub-mucous and cellular tissue, depositions and change of structure or organic lesion; and at this stage of the disease we are at first startled from our supposed security, by a more prominent development of symptom, perchance by an aggravation of some of those already enumerated; the expectoration becomes purulent and occasionally tinged or streaked with blood, and the detection of pus, denotes unequivocally that state or form of degeneracy depending upon tubercular deposit, and this state of degeneracy may positively exist, with but few or none of the symptoms enumerated preceding it, for pre-established irritation or inflammation is not necessary to the production of Tubercular phthisis. A scrofulitic diathesis may exist as an hereditary inheritance, and entirely independent of that doctrine of irritation, which has according to the opinions of some of the ablest Pathologists, been productive of fatal inroads in arriving at the pathology of consumption, and the commission of the most fatal errors in its treatment.

This diathesis, or hereditary predisposition, may remain in the system in a dormant state for years, and depend upon some exciting cause to produce a development of the disease, the change that the system undergoes at certain periods of life, particularly as regards females, will in many instances arouse the germ from its latency to a full development. That irritation does frequently prove an exciting cause there is no question, for there are too many instances occurring daily among children, where dental irritation develops a scrofulous diathesis, in enlarged glands about the neck; and intestinal irritation has in like manner developed mesenteric tubercles, and a cough produced by exposure to cold, has aroused tubercular action in the lungs, evincing marked symptoms of Pulmonary consumption.

These considerations suggest the importance, and even indicate in a great measure the prophylactics or preventives to be practised, as regards diet, exercise, &c. It is not a disease confined to the lungs alone; the importance of their office to our well being, develops most prominent symptoms when their functions are disturbed, and are apt to mislead by directing too much attention to the chest, at the expense of a proper regard to that pathological condition of the system upon which those pulmonary symptoms depend. In the language of Williams, in his principles of pathology, "Pulmonary consumption is a mere fractional part of a great constitutional derangement," which derangement consists in a changed state of the secretions of the system, a change of relation or disturbed affinity in the ultimate constituents, and their physical properties.

That a wonderful depraved and degenerate state of the system exists, in this form of disease, is very evident from the rapid emaciation, and the debility that follows; and the immediate cause of that degeneracy is fully proven by the chemical constituents of the blood, and

the other secretions of the system in health; compared with the average and mean results of twenty-two analyses made by Andral and Gavarret, together with similar deductions by Becquerel, Rodier, Reichert, Müller, Schultz, Orfila, Lecanu, and others, of the blood taken from Phthisical subjects. See the great difference existing between the quantities of solid constituents, (the extractive matters and salts) which are principally iron, silica, carbonates and phosphates of lime and soda. These results are not only obtained by analysing the blood, but upon examining the pus expectorated by those laboring under Phthisis pulmonalis, (consumption of the lungs,) we find its constituents consisting in two distinct portions, the liquor puri, and insoluble corpuscles swimming in it; and according to the result of the investigations most carefully conducted by Gruby and Gütterbock; the fluid portion contained extractive matters and salts, and Simons detected in his analyses, sulphates, phosphates and sulphur, arising in part during the incineration of the albumen.

One of the most important lessons is taught here, and quite sufficient to govern the treatment in this form of degeneracy, in the minds of those justly appreciating the chemical change the fluids of the system undergoes; certainly a ray of light beamed in upon the mind of Dr. Carswell, when he acknowledged that a more intimate knowledge of organic chemistry might enable him to detect in the mucous secretions, or in the blood, those changes which indicate the existence of tubercular diathesis, and thus be led to discover a remedy for the disease, before it effected its localization, and produce changes in themselves incurable.

But in pursuing this investigation further, and obtaining the results of Nasse's analyses, which is fully set forth in the report, of carefully conducted experiments upon the blood and serum, and pus and serum, we observe a much larger proportion of solid residue, organic constituents, phosphates and sulphates of soda, chloride of sodium phosphate and carbonate of lime, in the serum and pus, than in the blood and serum.

The same analogy is presented in the experiments conducted by Gmelin, Bostock, Vogel, Mitscherlich, Brugnatelli and L'Heretier upon saliva, an important constituent in digestion and nutrition, which we observe in the theory of the chylopoetic viscera. Their analyses showed sulpho-cyanogen to be an invariable constituent of healthy saliva, and that it was greatly increased by the internal use of prusic acid and the salts of cyanogen; and the unhealthy fluid contained solid constituents and extractive matters, consisting in carbonates, muriates, and phosphates of potash, soda, and lime. They were not merely visible, but bearing a considerable proportion, and their report is fully corroborated by Schultz and Wright, in a series of similar experiments.

The pus discharged from a scrofulitic tumor of the neck, or in case of morbus coxarius, (hip joint disease,) or from that scrofulitic degeneracy of the knee joint, usually designated by the term white swelling ; bears the same specific character with that expectorated.

The existing analogy in the analytical results of these morbid sections, are sufficient to prove to us very clearly the character of the degenerate condition of the system ; it is however, further corroborated by the peculiarity of the other secretions, (those not analytically referred to.) The existing diathesis and pathological character is the same, notwithstanding the development of a prominent symptom directing our attention to the lungs, liver, or mesenteric glands, the pathology is only varied by the gland, or part which seem most prominently disturbed, so far as locating is concerned ; but the elements are the same.

It appears to me unnecessary to examine the secretions of the system in health and disease any further, to show the true condition of the system pathologically, and also the cause of its depraved state, for the analogy existing between these morbid secretions must be sufficiently set forth, to convince the mind of any person, who is not tied to preconceived notions so closely, as to distort vision and pervert the better judgment. Neither do I deem it necessary, to argue at length the necessity of their elements in the blood, in order to maintain a normal standard.

For it cannot be a question, but an indisputable fact, that these elements are employed in nutrition, and cannot be mere effete products, from the fact that when they appear in the secretions to the extent referred to, a diminution must necessarily exist to the same ratio in the system. Anæmia from a deficiency of plastic power of the blood is the result, and a rapid emaciation ensues, for we must regard the blood, (as it is by the best authority,) as physically composed of corpuscles and plasma, the latter a complicated fluid, composed principally of extractive matters, and salts, and albumen, furnishing the direct nourishment to the blood.

We certainly cannot have any conceptions of animal life, that are not associated with the idea of continuous change, and how can it be possible that this metamorphoses can go on, when the blood is suffering from deterioration, and bordering upon in the language of another " vital annihilation." We are taught that every manifestation of its varying form is depending upon certain conditions, which cannot exist if they are infringed upon ; its inherent power cannot act, when deprived of the condition for its maintenance. These constituents are not only found to exist in the blood, and the secretions referred to, but in the mucous, sub-mucous, cellular, and fibrous tissues, and in fact in the general organism.

Then health must necessarily depend upon a proper relation, and

association of these atomic ultimate principles, and a corresponding equilibrium in the circulating fluids. And disease is the result of any infringement upon the specific law governing these relations.

What an important change the system must undergo in this form of disease; as is very evident from the different analyses referred to. How alarming and fatal the tendency; and with what anxiety the question is propounded, Are there no means by which this disease can be prevented? Can we be placed in no position that its attacks can be warded off? Is there no barrier to the farther ingress of this destroying angel to our social circles?

I answer yes: every disease to which the human system is liable, caused by atmospheric transitions, natural causes, multifarious as they are, or by physical transgression, the God of nature in his infinite wisdom and mercy, has furnished a remedy for. And there is not a pathological change during consumption, that is not fully evinced by its appropriate characteristic, nor a single symptom from the commencement, and during the stage of incipency, that does not only homœopathically indicate the appropriate drug for its removal, but plainly suggests the prophylactics to be practiced as regards diet, exercise in the free open air, temperature, clothing, bathing, and other means—how to be practised, and to what extent, in order to prevent a development of the disease in those where a predisposition exists.

That a predisposition does exist in almost every instance before confirmed consumption is developed, there can be no question. During eighteen years of close application to the medical profession, with an extensive practice, not a single case of consumption has come under my observation that I could not trace to a predisposition, and from the history of the several cases, the cause developing the disease could be distinctly noticed. Therefore, I repeat that each and every symptom in this form of disease, suggests the remedy for its removal by as positive indications, as those in any other form. And I conceive the time has arrived, when it is not regarded as an unpardonable heresy to advocate the doctrine advanced by the audacious Boerhaave, who argued with fidelity the simplicity of prescriptions, and the attaining of certainty in physics.

The question might reasonably be asked, if the above be true, why are there so many fatal cases? I answer, from the simple fact already mentioned in the commencement of this treatise: that the primary symptoms appear so mild, and the advancement of the disease so insidious, that they scarcely attract attention. And if they do, it has invariably been the case, instead of consulting a physician who is competent to observe, and carefully note each and every symptom, closely watch their varying changes, and see upon what pathological condition of the system these morbid phenomena de-

pend ; paying proper regard to age, sex, temperament, predisposition, and idiosyncracies, that peculiar organization of body which renders them more liable to the disease than those differently constituted ; consider them separately and collectively, and after thus closely diagnosing his patient, adapt his drug or remedial agent to the exigencies of the case, upon that principle resting upon the immutable basis of truth, embraced and promulgated by the immortal Hahnemann, "*Similia similibus curantur*." I say instead of calling upon a physician thus competent, one, or more of the popular remedies, or patent nostrums which are recommended for the radical cure of every disease flesh is heir to, are resorted to, and persisted in ; until organic lesion or change of structure has taken place, to such an extent that it is beyond the power of remedies to restore normal condition, or a physician is consulted who has purchased a patent, to eradicate disease "*vi et armis*" ; who is entirely ignorant of the important changes the system is undergoing ; its pathology, and constituency ; and prescribes as he asserts, according to indication, or as may best suit his fancy. The cough, if any, is treated by expectorants and anodynes ; the pain in the chest, by bleeding, leeching, blisters, and pustulating oil or ointments ; and in order to change the secretions of the system, mercurial alteratives are prescribed, which, with the other, are the very means to increase the existing irritability of the system, prostrating the already weakened energies, and still further abridge the vital forces. The practice embodying the idea that the bad blood is drawn by the bleeding, and the good allowed to remain, truly a peculiar process in separating. The anodyne administered in form of laudanum, opium, morphine, or some celebrated soothing or pectoral syrup, may, it is true, allay the pain or uneasiness, and check the cough for the time ; and also tend to strengthen confidence in such practice. But in point of fact what does it accomplish ? Simply deadens or benumbs sensibility of the system to such an extent that they are insensible to their own suffering and danger. Oh ! what a fatal delusion, and how many thousands are by such routine practice, prematurely brought to slumber in the silent tomb.

I dont pretend to say that remedies have not been administered by those holding opinions adverse to homœopathy, that have not proven beneficial in consumption, but I do most positively assert, that when they did benefit, they were homœopathically indicated. They have occasionally benefitted their patients by the use of the fumes of tar and rosin, which was the result of a mere matter of trial independent of any philosophy contained in their theory ; and had the case been followed up by the next appropriate drug, much might have been accomplished. Iron has also been given by them and proven serviceable ; but not an argument can they give, farther than adopting their own language, particularly as regards administering remedies in Epi-

lepsy, that it has occasionally been administered with success. The prussiate of iron, the phosphate of soda and potash have also been given, during certain stages with like results, and similar therapeutic certainty. Hydro cyanic acid has been a remedy somewhat popular with many of them, and it has proven very beneficial in those cases associated with prominent gastric symptoms. Why? Because sulphocyanogen is an invariable constituent in healthy saliva, and is increased by the internal use of prussic acid and the salts of cyanogen, and homœopathically indicated in those cases by the acid reaction of the morbid saliva, which is invariably the case, according to Wright and Donne, in all cases of irritation of the stomach.

Why is it that chalk and lime has proven so very serviceable in those cases of Cullen's Cachexia, depending upon a depraved state of the solids and fluids, if physiological chemistry did not indicate their use? And why does the infant creep to the side of the wall, scale off portions of lime and eat it, and devours magnesia with avidity whenever it can be obtained? If there is nothing to be learned from science, are there no deductions to be drawn from nature? Why is it that chlorotic females have such a peculiar and unconquerable relish for chalk and lime and other earthy substances? Is it in consequence, as the old theory asserts, of an acid condition of the stomach? No, there is not a single philosophic argument in favor of such an absurd idea, not one: but allow that condition of the system to continue uncorrected by proper remedial agents, and consumption will inevitably be the result; and who has ever heard of a case of chlorosis terminating favorably where treatment was instituted, that was not managed by the internal use of ferrum, calcarea, kali or sulphur; which shows most conclusively, the deficiency existing in the system of the proper constituents, a fact fully corroborated by Drs. Vitter, Andral, and Gavarret, in their analysis of the secretions of chlorotic subjects.

I have cured confirmed cases of Rachitis (Rickets,) by the internal use of lime and the phosphates; are we not aware that in this last disease a diminution of extractive matters and salts exist in the system, and an increased amount contained in the secretions?

In a case of Laryngeal and Pulmonary Phthisis (consumption of the throat and lung) with an opaque and ulcerated cornea, together with the physical signs peculiar to that form of disease associated with the moral symptoms, ill humor, taciturnity, &c., indicating silicia, eight doses of the third trituration effected a perfect cure.

I have always regarded organic chemistry as associated with pathology; the only true foundation upon which a successful treatment could be based; and being thus guided in my practice, I have never failed in case of consumption, where organic change of structure had not taken place to such an extent that the case was beyond recovery.

In Dr. Cowan's notes to Louis on Phthisis, he says that the great

pathologist Carswell, is of opinion that Pathological Anatomy has never afforded more conclusive evidence in proof of the curability of a disease than it has in that of tubercular phthisis, (pulmonary consumption.) The above views are not only consistent, but replete with practical instruction, and more so from the fact that he acknowledges a cherished principle in homœopathy; when speaking of the coexistence of different morbid alterations, he says "Pathologists are well aware that tumors wherever situated in the body, are almost invariably of the same description, and knowing the nature of one, they do not hesitate to predict the nature of the others."

Does not the average of the blood, the serum, and of the saliva that I have given, which is according to the analysis of all acknowledged authority, open to us an important inquiry? Does it not teach us the utter absurdity of prescribing, with even a rational hope of success, without an intimate knowledge of the constituents of man's organism? That without it we necessarily are groping our way in darkness, touching here and there, by chance, and more likely to prove injurious than beneficial, when we consider the delicate structure of this human fabric.

And does it not condemn, in the most unqualified terms, the use of not only the many Balms, Balsams, Detergents and Sanatives that have long filled a conspicuous place in the Pharmacopœas and Dispensatories: but speak in unmistakeable language against that wholesale and delusive practice of the Lancet. Blisters, opiates, purgatives and mercury, (which according to the acknowledgment of one of their most able and recent authors,) has frequently excited consumption; and says further, "it is very common for us to see persons who have been in the foul wards of an Hospital, and undergone a considerable administration of mercury, fall into a state of phthisis," (consumption.) Vide Elliotson's Practice, page 800; and he might have added, that he had seen many a fine constitution ruined, and consumption developed by the use of that pernicious drug, in those who never saw an Hospital in their lives; which fact, every honest practitioner of any note, would unhesitatingly affirm; still, those potent weapons of destruction are used and brandished by the Allopath in utter defiance of truth and even rational induction.

No person can pay attention to the constituents of man's organism, and believe for a single moment, that medicines can be administered with any degree of safety, that are not agreeable to the homœopathic doctrine. Notwithstanding the assertions of the Alopah to the contrary, and that it is necessary to abandon cause and effect, in order to carry out the theory and practice. It is the only theory and practice that is legitimately based upon cause and affect, a principle that holds good, and is verified by all the natural sciences.

In case of poison by some active corrosive mineral, arsenic for

instance; requires to be antidoted by the hydrated peroxyd, or sesquioxyd of iron; a chemical disease, requiring a chemical remedy, proportionate to the amount of cause acting. The same holds good in antidoting a huge dose of some nauseous drug unwisely administered. It is not only considered unnecessary, but unwise and inexpedient, and contrary to every principle governing cause and effect; to administer nauseating drugs in table-spoon doses, that makes the stomach revolt, and cause a shudder to pass over our patient while contemplating the horror; to remove a disease produced by a cause so infantismal and minute, the most delicate chemical test can scarcely detect it; which test it does require to obtain the results of the analysis of the constituents of the secretions referred to.

Well may these apostles of such unenviable honor and memory, sit down in sullen mood, and ask each other the question of Eberle, "Has genius always wandered in idle quest and brought back no substantial trophies from the regions of pathological speculation?" And answer it in language of the same author. "Like the assymtotes of the parabola, the human mind is continually searching after truth, although it may never reach it." The inferences to be drawn from the above language of Eberle are perfectly obvious, viz: that the broad field of pathology is to them but a mere matter of speculation and uncertainty, and that it is not very important we should search after truth, being extremely doubtful whether we attain it.

To the first, I answer, so long as we regard pathology as speculative, and not the true foundation to build a successful therapeutic upon, as exhibited by their diagnostic characteristics, we must expect to fall far short of accomplishing our mission; and as Louis says pathology is therefore the predecessor rather than the contemporary of successful therapeutics; without it the latter has no other hopes of advancement than the blind chances of empirical experiment.

And secondly, the mind of man is progressive, and is sure to arrive at truth if he will allow his energies to be properly directed, by divesting it of belief in that which is repugnant to every principle of science, the result of preconceived ideas without reason. But I will admit as an undeniable truism, that we may continue standing on the shore, with the boundless ocean of undiscovered truth in view, if our efforts are not directed in the proper channel, we never will attain it.

Finally, the importance of a correct knowledge of pathology and physiological chemistry in the treatment of consumption is certainly too well established by the cases referred to, and the analysis of the secretions of the system, to require any farther proof. It shows conclusively, the condition of the system upon which predisposition depends. The nature of the causes capable of producing a development, and not only, that it can be prevented by a proper regard to prophylactics, in those cases where a predisposition exists; but it re-

veals (as I have already remarked,) the fact that consumption can be cured by positive indication. Notwithstanding the opinion of the profession to the reverse, so very generally regarding it as an incurable disease; that it has proven a paralysing incubus, to the investigation of its true pathological character; and ever will be thus regarded, and doubly substantiated by their practice, until they cease to act upon the old Latin proverb "Via, trita, via tuta," which provides more ease for the doctor, than safety to the invalid.

But what is to be expected in way of advancement, from those who can only see Geography in Strabo, Philosophy in Plato, whose only theology is in Scotus and Aquinus, and whose medical ethics are only to be found in Hippocrates, the eighteenth lineal descendant from Æsculapius.

Truly may we exclaim in the language of Virgil, "Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas!"



